

NOTES ON *HOVEA* R. Br. (FABACEAE): 4

by

J. H. ROSS*

ABSTRACT

Ross, J. H. Notes on *Hovea* R. Br. (Fabaceae): 4. *Muelleria* 7(2): 203-206 (1990).—*Hovea corrickiae* from western Victoria and north-eastern Tasmania is described as new.

HOVEA CORRICKIAE

Hovea corrickiae J. H. Ross *sp. nov.* affinis *H. longifoliae* R.Br. a qua foliis anguste ovatis vel ellipticis, 0.7-2 cm latis plus minusve planis, petiolis 0.4-1 cm longis, pedicellis 5-9.5 mm longis, bracteis 4.5-8 mm infra bracteolis insertis, pilis ramulorum juniorum et paginae inferioris foliorum circinatis vel crispis, et pagina interiore valvae leguminis glabra, differt.

TYPUS: Victoria, Western Grampians, Victoria Range Road, 0.6 km from its junction with Sawmill Track, 5 Sept. 1983, M. G. Corrick 8602 (HOLOTYPE: MEL; ISOTYPE: BRI, CBG, HO, K, NSW).

Shrub or slender tree to 5 m high, branchlets densely clothed with appressed to slightly spreading straightish or curled greyish or whitish hairs. *Leaves* spreading almost at right angles to the stem: lamina more or less flat on upper surface on either side of the depressed midrib, narrow-ovate or elliptic, (1.7-)3-11.4 cm long, (0.5-)0.7-2 cm wide, apex obtuse or acute, with a short mucro, upper surface dark green, glossy, glabrous apart from hairs along the midrib, venation not prominent, lower surface with some of the lateral veins raised and quite prominent, densely clothed with coiled or curled pale yellowish-white to rust-coloured hairs, the hairs obscuring the surface completely or confined to the veins and forming a pattern through which glabrous patches of lamina are visible; petiole 0.4-1 cm long, densely pubescent like the branchlet. *Stipules* narrow-ovate, up to 1.2 mm long. *Inflorescences* axillary, on densely pubescent peduncles up to 1 cm long and usually 2- or 3-flowered or the axis growing on to form a many-flowered leaf-bearing shoot up to 12 cm long. *Flowers* pedicellate, the pedicels 5-9.5 mm long, densely clothed with short straightish or curled hairs; bracteoles oblong, 1-2 mm long, obtuse apically, much shorter than the calyx-tube, inserted at the base of or a short distance below the calyx, densely pubescent like the pedicel and bract; bract 1-2 mm long, inserted 4.5-8 mm below the bracteoles. *Calyx* densely clothed with short dark curled hairs and longer greyish-white hairs or the hairs dark basally and greyish-white distally: 2 upper lobes 6-6.5 mm long including the tube 3-3.5 mm long, the 3 lower lobes 2.5-3.5 mm long. *Standard* 9.5-10.5 mm long, 11-13 mm wide, emarginate apically, pale to deep mauve or occasionally white, with a greenish-yellow basal flare; wings 8.5-10 mm long, 3.8-4.5 mm wide; keel petals 5.7-6.5 mm long, 2.2-3 mm wide. *Stamen-filaments* 4.5-5 mm long. *Ovary* sessile, 2-2.5 mm long, 2-ovulate, pubescent basally and along the suture. Pods shortly stipitate but stipe not exceeding the calyx, obliquely ovoid or ellipsoid or sometimes transversely elliptic, 1-2 cm long, 0.9-1.7 cm wide, densely clothed with appressed hairs externally when young, sparsely so when mature, glabrous internally. *Seeds* elliptic, plump, 5.5-6 mm long, 3.4-3.6 mm wide, 2.7-3 mm thick, dark brownish-black and often with an underlying yellow to reddish-brown mottle, hilum linear, the aril with a small raised lateral lip and extending for almost the length of the seed. (Fig. 1)

H. corrickiae has a disjunct distribution occurring in western Victoria and in north-eastern Tasmania (Fig. 2). In western Victoria the species is confined to areas

* National Herbarium of Victoria, Birdwood Avenue, South Yarra, Victoria, Australia 3141.

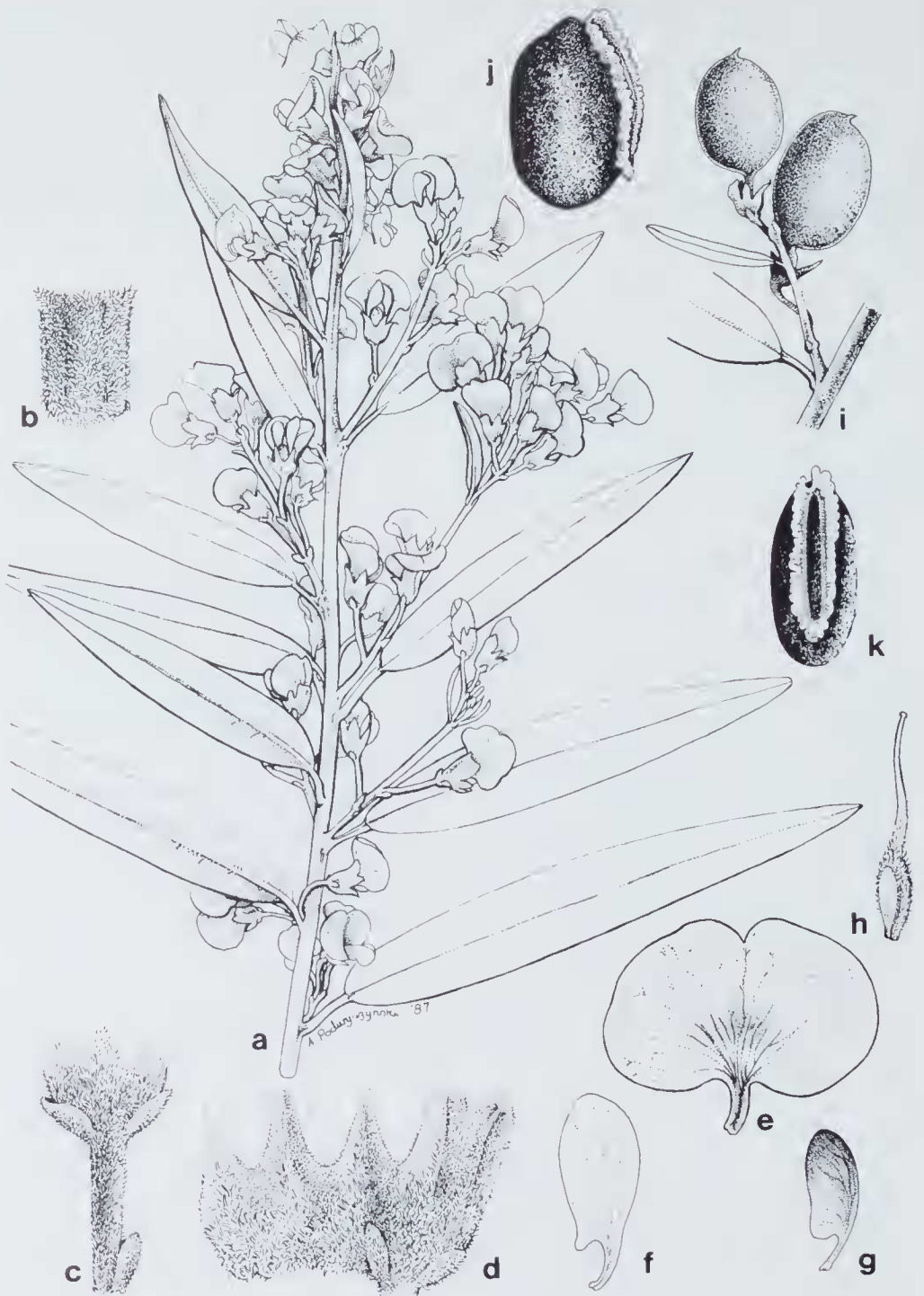


Fig. 1. *Hovea corrickiae*. a—flowering twig, $\times 1$. b—surface of portion of stem showing indumentum, $\times 5$. c—pedicel showing basal bract inserted some distance below the paired bracteoles, $\times 4$. d—calyx opened out (upper lobes on right), $\times 4$. e—standard, $\times 3$. f—wing petal, $\times 3$. g—keel petal, $\times 3$. h—gynoecium, $\times 6$. i—fruiting twig, $\times 1$. j—seed, side view, $\times 4$. k—seed, hilar view, $\times 4$. a-h from holotype, *M. G. Corrick 8602* (MEL); j and k from *M. McGarvie et al.* (MEL).

of high rainfall in the Victoria and William Ranges in the Grampians and in the nearby Black Range; in Tasmania it is recorded from the St Columba Falls State Reserve and from the Lower Marsh Creek, south-east of Gray. Two specimens, namely Staer (NSW 168532) and Staer (NSW 168533), are labelled as having been collected at Ferntree Gully and the You Yangs, Victoria, respectively. Such occurrences of this species are so unlikely that they are discounted; presumably the labels do not belong with the specimens.

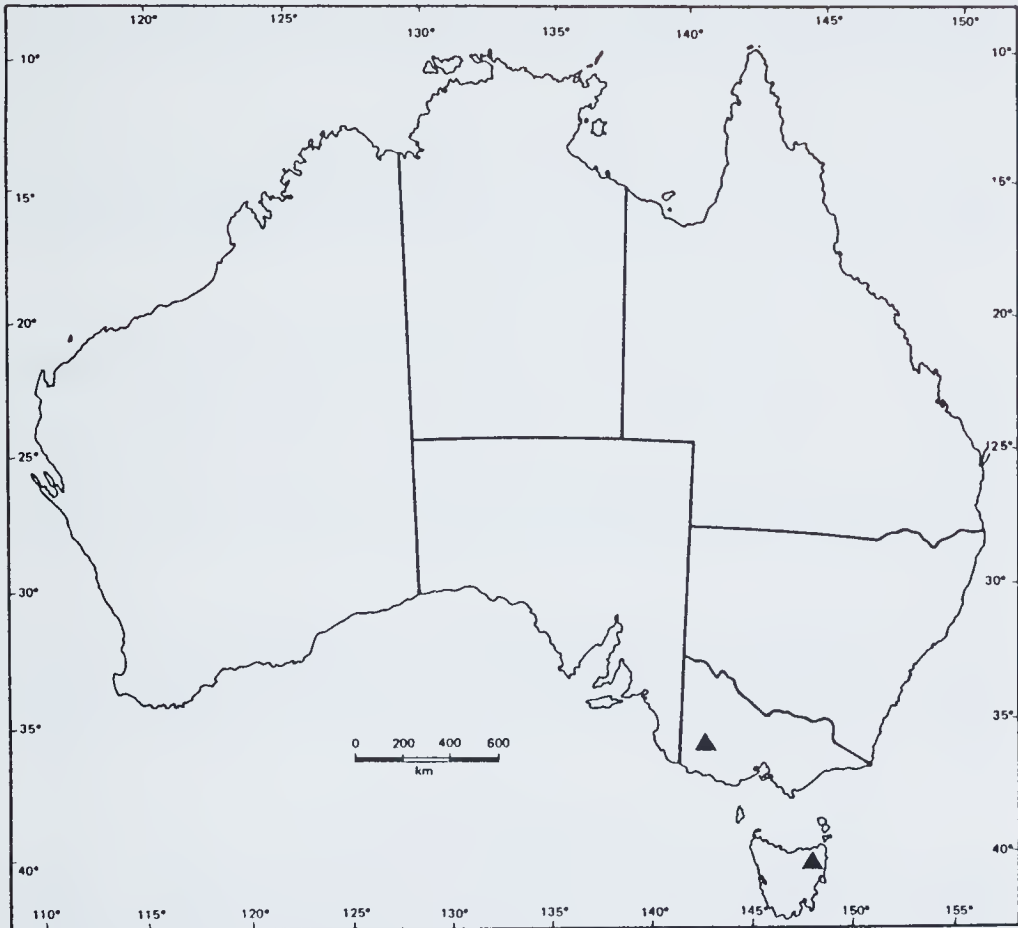


Fig. 2. The known distribution of *Hovea corrickiae*.

In Victoria the species favours tall open *Eucalyptus* forest (often *E. cypellocarpa* and/or *E. obliqua*) with a dense shrub layer. In Tasmania *H. corrickiae* is recorded from open *Eucalyptus* forest (*E. obliqua* and/or *E. sieberi*) and from *Acacia dealbata*–*Pomaderris apetalata* or *Pomaderris apetalata*–*Cassinia trinerva* dominated scrub.

REPRESENTATIVE SPECIMENS (total number examined 33):

Victoria—Grampians, Victoria Range, between Mt Thackery and Chimney Pot, along creek, feeder of Glenelg River, 24.ii.1957, *M. McGarvie, P. E. Finck & A. C. Beauglehole* 4075 (MEL). Grampians, Mt William Range, Bovine Falls, 4.x.1929, *J. H. Willis s.n.* (MEL 1529484). Black Range, 2.4 km SW of Knonargle's Hut at head of Muchong Creek, 4.iii.1948, *J. H. Willis s.n.* (MEL 1529481).

Tasmania—South George River, St Columba Falls State Reserve, 8.vi.1983, *A. Moscal* 2493 (HO). Lower Marsh Creek, 2.5 km SE of Gray, 16.v.1983, *D. Ziegler s.n.* (HO).

Material of *H. corrickiae* in Victoria has been referred previously (Willis 1973) to *H. longifolia* but the latter is a distinct species with a narrow range of distribution almost entirely within the central coastal area of New South Wales. *H. longifolia* differs from *H. corrickiae* in that the leaf-lamina is linear-oblong or oblong, 0.18–0.85 cm wide and usually arched up on either side of the midrib and slightly recurved, the pedicels are 4–6 mm long, the bract is inserted on the pedicel 1.5–4 mm below the paired bracteoles, the inner surface of each pod valve is clothed with weak white hairs, and the composition of the indumentum of the branchlets and lower surfaces of the leaves is different.

The indumentum on the branchlets of some specimens is reminiscent of that of *H. lanceolata* but in the latter species the bract and bracteoles are inserted close together on the pedicel.

Some specimens from Springbrook, Lamington National Park, Mt French and Mt Greville in south-eastern Queensland, for example *C. T. White 6252* (BRI) and *D. & J. Orford s.n.* (MEL), are superficially similar to *H. corrickiae*. These Queensland specimens differ from *H. corrickiae* in having differently shaped calyx-lobes, wing and keel petals, and in the pods valves being pubescent internally. These specimens have been referred to in the past as narrow-leaved variants of *H. acutifolia* Cunn. ex G. Don but their identity is not clear at present.

Only seven specimens from Tasmania have been available for study, three of which are in young bud. Three of the specimens were collected before 1900 and cannot be localised accurately as locality data are deficient. The Tasmanian specimens differ slightly from the material from western Victoria in that the indumentum on the branchlets is slightly shorter and more tightly coiled, the indumentum on the lower surface of the leaves is slightly sparser and often discontinuous, the indumentum of the calyx is shorter, and the flowers are slightly smaller.

The upper surface of the leaves in *H. corrickiae* is glossy and in certain light the leaves shine and enable the species to be distinguished readily from the surrounding vegetation.

H. corrickiae is named in honour of my former colleague Margaret G. Corrick, who retired in October 1987, in recognition of her many contributions to botany. Margaret Corrick has had a long-standing interest in plants, especially in members of the family Fabaceae, and, together with her husband Bill, has travelled extensively and collected many specimens which have assisted work on this and other genera.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am most grateful to my former colleague Margaret Corrick for making a special trip to collect type material of *H. corrickiae*; to Collin and Dorothy Woolcock of Portland for making a special collection of fruiting material of *H. corrickiae*; to my colleague Anita Podwyszynski for executing the illustration which accompanies this paper; to Alex George, Executive Editor of the Flora of Australia, Canberra, for checking the Latin diagnosis; and to the Directors/Curators of AD, BRI, CGE, E, HO, NSW, and W for the loan of specimens.

REFERENCE

- Willis, J. H. (1973). A Handbook to Plants in Victoria, Vol. 2, 2nd edn: 282. (Melbourne University Press: Carlton.)